

ELECTIONS BOARD

Budget Summary							
Fund	2002-03 Base Year Doubled	2003-05 Governor	2003-05 Jt. Finance	2003-05 Legislature	2003-05 Act 33	Act 33 Change Over Base Year Doubled	
						Amount	Percent
GPR	\$1,912,400	\$1,989,000	\$1,847,600	\$1,847,600	\$1,847,600	- \$64,800	- 3.4%
PR	100,600	112,000	112,000	112,000	112,000	11,400	11.3
SEG	<u>1,400,000</u>	<u>800,000</u>	<u>800,000</u>	<u>800,000</u>	<u>800,000</u>	<u>- 600,000</u>	- 42.9
TOTAL	\$3,413,000	\$2,901,000	\$2,759,600	\$2,759,600	\$2,759,600	- \$653,400	- 19.1%

FTE Position Summary						
Fund	2002-03 Base	2004-05 Governor	2004-05 Jt. Finance	2004-05 Legislature	2004-05 Act 33	Act 33 Change Over 2002-03 Base
GPR	15.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	- 4.00

Budget Change Items

1. STANDARD BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS [LFB Paper 285]

	Governor (Chg. to Base)		Jt. Finance/Leg. (Chg. to Gov)		Net Change	
	Funding	Positions	Funding	Positions	Funding	Positions
GPR	\$45,800	- 3.00	- \$141,400	0.00	- \$95,600	- 3.00
PR	<u>- 16,000</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>- 16,000</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total	\$29,800	- 3.00	- \$141,400	0.00	- \$111,600	- 3.00

Governor: Provide standard adjustments to the base budget totaling \$22,300 GPR and -\$8,000 PR in 2003-04, \$23,500 GPR and -\$8,000 PR in 2004-05 and -3.0 GPR positions annually. Adjustments are for: (a) removal of noncontinuing elements from the base (-\$8,000 PR and -1.0 GPR position annually); (b) full funding of continuing salaries and fringe benefits (\$30,300 GPR annually); (c) removal of campaign finance positions and associated fringe benefits created under 2001 Wisconsin Act 109 (-\$18,600 GPR and -2.0 GPR positions annually); (d) reclassifications (\$6,400 GPR in 2003-04 and \$7,600 GPR in 2004-05); and (e) fifth week of vacation as cash (\$4,200 GPR annually).

Joint Finance/Legislature: Delete funding for fifth week of vacation as cash (-\$4,200 GPR annually). In addition, delete \$66,500 GPR annually associated with remaining base level salary and supplies and services funding for 2.0 GPR campaign finance positions created under provisions of 2001 Wisconsin Act 109 that were subsequently invalidated by the United States District Court. Transfer the total amount associated with the deleted positions (\$133,000 GPR) to the Joint Committee on Finance GPR supplemental appropriation in 2003-04 for possible future use as matching funds under the Federal Help America Vote Act (see Item #7 below). The fiscal effect of this latter action is shown under Program Supplements.

2. CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATION DATABASE MAINTENANCE [LFB Paper 286]

GPR	\$101,800
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Governor: Provide \$76,400 in 2003-04 and \$25,400 in 2004-05 to maintain the Board's campaign finance and elections administration databases until their conversion to an Oracle database that meets current state database standards. Costs include: (a) completing the migration of the current campaign finance database from outdated hardware to a server supported by the Department of Electronic Government (DEG) (\$37,000 in 2003-04); (b) DEG charges to maintain the Board's new server and to service software associated with the campaign finance database (\$2,200 in 2003-04 and \$4,200 in 2004-05); (c) contractor service charges associated with the Board's partially completed elections administration Oracle database (\$31,200 in 2003-04 and \$21,200 in 2004-05); and (d) upgrading the Oracle database license for the elections administration database to maintain its serviceability (\$6,000 in 2003-04).

The Board began its campaign finance and elections administration database conversion project during the 1997-99 biennium and has been provided approximately \$530,000 GPR for the effort since that time. The project consists of two interrelated software development efforts. The first is a conversion of the database currently used by Board staff to administer election activities and campaign finance reports. The second is an electronic campaign filing enhancement that would allow electronic filing and retrieval over the Internet of campaign finance report information. A July 27, 2001, report prepared for the Board identified a five-year cost of ownership of approximately \$4.6 million, including initial development costs and ongoing maintenance and support.

Joint Finance/Legislature: Reserve an additional \$100,000 in 2004-05 under the Joint Committee on Finance GPR supplemental appropriation for possible future release to the Board to retain an external IT consultant to: (a) update the business system and technical requirements for the agency's database conversion; and (b) identify a vendor to complete the conversion. The fiscal effect of this action is shown under Program Supplements.

3. BASE BUDGET REDUCTION

Governor/Legislature: Reduce the GPR general program

Funding Positions		
GPR	- \$91,400	- 1.00

operations appropriation by \$45,700 and 1.0 position annually. The base reduction would be applied to amounts budgeted for salaries and fringe benefits. The funding reduction represents a 4.8% annual reduction to the Board's GPR adjusted base for state operations.

4. SUPPLIES AND SERVICES COST INCREASES

GPR	\$20,400
PR	<u>27,400</u>
Total	\$47,800

Governor/Legislature: Provide \$10,200 GPR and \$13,700 PR annually to fund the following supplies and services costs:

Information Technology Charges. Provide \$10,200 GPR annually for DEG billings for the following information technology services: (a) agency website charges (\$3,000 GPR annually); and (b) the on-going small agency support infrastructure (SASI) program (\$7,200 GPR annually). The SASI program provides basic desktop information technology support to small agencies.

PR-Funded General Program Operations. Provide increased expenditure authority of \$8,700 PR annually for supplies and services under the Board's PR-funded general program operations appropriation. The increase would offset a portion of base level GPR funding reductions required during the 2001-03 biennium. The program revenue credited to this appropriation is from a \$100 annual filing fee that campaign finance registrants (other than candidates and their personal campaign committees) are required to pay to the Board, if the registrants make disbursements exceeding \$2,500 in a calendar year. Generally, under current state campaign laws, individuals (other than candidates or agents of candidates) and committees (other than personal campaign committees) must file a registration statement with the Board, if they accept contributions, incur obligations or make disbursements exceeding \$25 in a calendar year. The Board anticipates that an increased number of campaign finance registrants will be subject to the fee and that the resulting revenue will increase from \$27,200 to \$36,000 annually.

Documents and Meeting Expenses. Provide additional expenditure authority of \$5,000 PR annually under the Board's materials and services appropriation to fund increased costs of: (a) publishing documents; (b) locating and copying records; (c) conducting administrative meetings and conferences; and (d) supplies, postage and shipping. The program revenue credited to this appropriation is generated from publication sales, copying fees, records location fees, and conference registration charges. The Board anticipates that these revenues will increase from \$15,000 to \$18,100 annually.

5. WISCONSIN ELECTION CAMPAIGN FUND GRANTS

SEG	- \$600,000
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Governor/Legislature: Reestimate the amount of grant funding needed for the Wisconsin Election Campaign Fund by -\$600,000 in 2003-04. Total grant levels would be budgeted at \$100,000 in 2003-04 and \$700,000 in 2004-05.

6. CHIEF INSPECTOR TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAM [LFB Paper 287]

Governor: Authorize the Board to assess municipalities for the agency's costs incurred in carrying out the current state chief inspector training and certification program. Specify that the amount assessed to any such entity may not exceed the costs incurred by the Board attributable to that municipality. Create a PR continuing appropriation account to receive the assessment revenues and specify that the Board may expend such funds for the purpose of training chief inspectors. As a continuing appropriation, the Board would have the authority to expend all available revenues, subject to the Department of Administration allotment process.

Under current law, all Wisconsin polling places must have a certified chief inspector for all elections by September 1, 2004. Further, no person may serve as a chief inspector who has not been certified by the Board, first effective for any election held on or after September 1, 2004.

Under the program, the Board must: (a) prescribe, by rule, the certification requirements for individuals to serve as chief inspectors; (b) upon application, issue certificates with expiration dates to qualified chief inspectors who have met the Board's requirements; (c) require each individual issued such a certificate to meet requirements to maintain certification; (d) renew the certificate, when requested, of those individuals meeting the Board's renewal requirements; (e) conduct regular training and administer examinations to ensure a knowledgeable corps of certified chief inspectors; and (f) pay all costs required to conduct chief inspector training and to administer the examinations.

Joint Finance/Legislature: Delete provision.

7. FEDERAL HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT MATCHING FUNDS [LFB Paper 285]

Joint Finance/Legislature: Direct the Department of Administration not to seek reimbursement under the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) for a one-time funding supplement of \$200,000 GPR provided to the Board in December, 2002, to develop an implementation plan for a statewide voter registration system required under HAVA. The funds would be applied instead towards the state's cash match requirement under HAVA. These amounts would be in addition to the \$133,000 GPR of deleted standard budget adjustment funding transferred from the Board's budget and reserved in the Joint Committee on Finance GPR supplemental appropriation for possible future release to the Board to match federal funding under HAVA (see item #1).

Federal Help America Vote Act. On October 29, 2002, HAVA was signed into law. HAVA creates a series of new requirements applicable to the states, including: (a) creating an official centralized computerized statewide voter registration list system; and (b) requiring all polling stations to be equipped with voting systems accessible to individuals with disabilities, including nonvisual accessibility for the blind and visually impaired.

The primary grant funds for state election administration activities under HAVA are contained in Titles I and II of the Act. Wisconsin is expected to receive \$7,115,000 FED in Title I

funds during 2002-03. These Title I funds require no state match. It is estimated that the state could also receive \$23,390,000 FED in Title II HAVA funds in 2003-04, if the state: (a) files with the federal Election Assistance Commission a required state plan covering the current federal fiscal year; (b) files with the same Commission a plan for the implementation of the uniform, nondiscriminatory administrative complaint procedure required under HAVA; and (c) provides a required 5% state match (\$1,231,100). The state could potentially receive additional Title II funding in 2004-05 if the federal government provides additional funding under its 2005 budget.

[Act 33 Section: 9101(12p)]